



## Congratulations to this year's winners of the Delaware Junior Duck Stamp Art Design Competition!

Maria Ji, 16, of Wilmington, who won best in show for her acrylic painting of a Spectacled Eider

Tony Monaco, 11, of Seaford, who won second runner-up for his oil painting of a Canada Goose

Hannah Doyle, 12, of Seaford, who won third runner-up for her watercolor painting of a Green-winged Teal

The three were chosen from more than 30 student entries from kindergarten through 12th grade across the state during the judging last Saturday at the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge in Smyrna. Ji took home the Best in Show prize for the third year in a row, earning the chance to compete in the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Contest, being held at the Patuxent Research Refuge near Washington, D.C., on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The winner of the federal competition will have his or her artwork made into the 2012-2013 Junior Duck Stamp, which the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service sells for \$5 each. The Federal Best of Show winner will also receive a \$5,000 Scholarship prize.

The JDS program is unique because it teaches biology and habitat conservation through scientific observation and artistic interpretation to K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Delaware's program concludes mid-March each year with a competition between submitted art entries. First, second and third place winners are chosen from all age groups and a "Best of Show" is selected to compete in the national Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest.

Dorothy McCormick, 8, the winner of this year's Kindergarten through 3rd grade division, said she studied ducks in the pond by her house and in bird books to prepare her watercolor of an American Widgeon. "When you start, you think it's about the art," said her mother, Shawna McCormick. "But you really need to understand the ducks and their environment."

"The opportunity to compete in something is always an asset for kids' learning," said judge Rick Berry, of the Advisory Council on Fish and Wildlife. "It gives kids a chance to learn about habitat around them, to learn about wildlife around them." The judges panel also included renowned Wildlife Artist Richard Clifton, F&W Director David Saveikis, USFWS Biologist Dan Stotts, and Delaware JDS Founder William Whitman.

The winners' artwork from the Delaware competition will be on display at the Bombay Hook Refuge visitor's center now through April 7th.



Dorothy McCormick



# 2012 Delaware Junior Duck Stamp Competition Results

## Group I, K-Grades 3:

First—Dorothy McCormick, age 8 from Millsboro

Second— Mercy Winston, age 8 from Milford

Third—Samuel Winston, age 5 from Milford

Honorable Mention—Emma Jane Morris, Parker Reb, Talon Webb, and Aaron Reb

## Group II, Grades 4-6:

First—Tony Monaco, age 11 from Seaford

First—Daniel Winston, age 12 from Milford

Second—Kayla Booros, age 11 from Bridgeville

Third—Wayne Morris, age 10 from Clayton

Third—Grace Winston, age 10 from Milford

Honorable Mention—Rocklin Reb, Bayleigh Carlisle, Magdalyn Reb, Atira Forrest, Fiona Piper, Sabrina Baillie, Alice Toll, Quinton Kramack, John Richmond, Sarah Schoen, Gevon Cheatham, Michael Jones

## Group III, Grades 7-9:

First—Hannah Doyle, age 12 from Seaford

Second—Rachael Winston, age 13 from Milford

Third—Bridget Johnson, age 13 from Seaford

Honorable Mention—Jerald Reb

## Group IV, Grades 10-12:

First—Maria Ji, age 16 from Wilmington

Second—Alicia Hale, age 15 from Bridgeville

Third— Josiah Winston, age 15 from Milford

Third— Joy Winston, age 17 from Milford

Honorable Mention—Jonathan Winston



Best of Show, Maria Ji